



Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

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August 17, 2001

Dr. Jeffrey P. Koenings, Director
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 N. Capitol Way
P.O. Box 43135
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Jeff:

I wanted to take this opportunity to express the NWIFC's appreciation of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife efforts to refine and complete the Future Brood Document (FBD) planning process. The addition of a second draft was a useful tool for hatchery program operators to verify proposed changes had been incorporated into the document, prior to the release of the final FBD. The tribes felt there was more tribal involvement in reviewing proposed state changes than in years past. Further, the final Future Brood Document was released this year in early July, much earlier than in previous years.

However one needed addition to the process would be to require a written response to a tribe if their program changes were not incorporated into the document. This would ensure clear communication and avoid possible problems.

Kyle Addicks of your staff was instrumental in many of the improvements and is to be commended for making substantial contributions to the process. He was readily available to assist tribal staffs to see that their program reviews occurred in a timely manner and that established deadlines had been met.

NWIFC looks forward to working with WDFW in implementing new FBD database software that will simplify and institutionalize the management and access of information to meet end-users needs.

Sincerely,

James R. Anderson
Executive Director

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR